

input signal for processing said input signal only in said at least one of said modules to which said input signal is routed.

12. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said selector controls processing of said input signal in said at least one of said modules to which said input signal is routed.

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13. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein a group of said speech recognition modules in said plurality of speech recognition modules share common pre-processing features, and wherein said plurality of modules further includes a pre-processing module, connected to said speech recognition modules in said group, and wherein said selector, if said at least one of said modules to which said input signal is routed is a speech recognition module in said group, routes said input signal to said at least one of said speech recognition modules in said group through said pre-processing module.

14. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein a group of said speech output modules in said plurality of speech output modules share common post-processing features, and wherein said plurality of modules further includes a post-processing module, connected to said speech output modules in said group, and wherein said selector, if said at least one of said modules to which said input signal is routed is a speech output module in said group, routes said input signal to said at least one of said speech output modules in said group through said post-processing module

15. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 further comprising a dialog sequence control connected to said selector for controlling a dialog between said selector and a user.

16. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 15 wherein said dialog sequence control generates said input signal.

21 17. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said plurality of speech recognition modules comprise a speech recognition module for individual numeral recognition, a speech recognition module for recognition of chains of numerals, a speech recognition module for recognition of words from a limited vocabulary, a speech recognition module for recognition of an individual word with an unlimited vocabulary, a speech recognition module for recognition of speech spoken in a flowing manner with an unlimited vocabulary, a speech recognition module for recognition of predetermined word combinations, a speech recognition module for key word recognition, a speech recognition module for alphabet recognition, a speech recognition module for sound sequence recognition, a speech recognition module for speech recognition, and a speech recognition module for DTMF recognition.

18. A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said plurality of speech output modules comprise a speech output module for output of predetermined stored speech components, a speech output module for output of combined individual predetermined stored speech components, a speech output

module for output of words synthesized from stored phone names, and a speech output module for output of DTMF tones.

19. A speech processing method comprising the steps of:

b1 providing a plurality of modules of respectively different types including speech recognition modules for respectively different types of speech recognition and speech output modules for respectively different types of speech output;

analyzing an input signal to be processed to identify at least one of said types needed to process said input signal; and

routing said input signal to at least one of said modules having a type corresponding to the type needed to process said input signal, and processing said input signal only in said at least one of said modules to which said input signal is routed.

20. A speech processing method as claimed in claim 19 comprising the additional step of:

if said input signal is routed to at least one of said speech recognition modules in said plurality of modules, pre-processing said input signal before processing said input signal in said at least one of said speech recognition modules.

21. A speech processing method as claimed in claim 19 comprising the additional step of:

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if said input signal is routed to at least one of said speech output modules in said plurality of modules, post-processing said input signal after processing said input signal in said at least one of said speech output modules.
